

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. Canceled
2. (Currently amended) A method for monitoring the functions and increasing the operational reliability of a complex safety-relevant vehicle control system, and for detecting and evaluating system errors,
the method comprising the steps of:
 - detecting a system error and evaluation as a group error,
 - bringing about a system degradation corresponding to the group error by restricting system functions,
 - localizing the system error and ~~[[the]]~~ an error source by at least one of the functions out of the group consisting of tests, logical combining of the test results and plausibility considerations, and
 - gradually canceling the restrictions of the system functions and enhancing the system availability in dependence on the result of the ~~individual steps~~ step for localizing the system error and the error source.

3. (Currently amended) A safety-relevant control system, comprising ~~means for~~ monitoring its functions and increasing their operational reliability and for detecting and evaluating system errors,

~~the means being capable of performing the steps of:~~

[[~~-~~]] detecting means for detecting a system error and evaluation as a group error[[,]];

[[~~-~~]] first localization means for bringing about a system degradation corresponding to the group error by restricting system functions[[,]];

[[~~-~~]] second localization means for localizing the system error and ~~[[the]]~~ an error source by at least one of the functions out of the group consisting of tests, logical combining of the test results and plausibility considerations[[,]]; and

[[~~-~~]] enhancing means for gradually canceling the restrictions of the system functions and enhancing the system availability in dependence on the ~~result of the~~ individual steps for localizing the system error and the error source.